

Growthtown, Feb 9th 1836

My dear friend, Thanks for your gifts! Lizzy is fond of appropriation, so, last year I yielded my claim to your treasured little note, which is placed in her Autograph Book, and the 'Liberty Bell' remained for me, with its many, gems. This year I have to thank you for your beautiful Report. You have showered favours upon us, and if we are unworthy, we are not ungrateful.

We owe your noble band much, indeed. We live in the agitation you create, for in our own land is the stillness of death; such as stillness as always reigns where a sceptred monarch treads, where time-worn institutions still ^{remain} exist in all their power though the ages that called for them have passed. I love agitation, for life never exists motionless. Our struggle for free trade is a glorious struggle; and we may yet hope, that commercial liberty be gained. But I am writing like a patriot; and a patriot, in the common sense of the term, I do not profess to be. Even a philanthropist has plenty of room in England - in England, if any where; & so H. C. Wright seems to think, for he has a sleepless time of it amongst us. My brother has just this moment received a note from him, in which he says (It is dated from Manchester) "I have lectured at the rate of once a day for the last twelve days, and meetings are appointed for about every day for fifteen to come, so I am desperately pushed - driving hither and thither. I wouldn't mind if I could sleep, but I am doomed to almost perpetual wakefulness. I spent two nights recently with John Bright. He is a glorious fellow! gone to London, now, to agitate there. Cobden has been giving it to Peel, and Peel has made a fool of himself. There is great excitement about the Corn Laws and the League. The Anti-Leaguers are pushing the League up to come out on

the doctrine of absolute free Trade - No restitution No restriction.
taunt, and say they dare not. But Bright does. Moore does -
Thompson does. The two last nights I lectured in Bolton - was with
Henry Ashworth. Friends Meeting houses were open for me in
Rochdale and Bolton." &c. - H. C. Wright attacks the roots of
the corrupt tree; he seeks an entrance into the inner temple of the
heart. Our dear friend is much beloved by many in Ireland.
Ireland has not greatly aided your Bazaar this year. You can scarcely
expect a barren soil to yield rich produce. Remond's presence
and eloquent appeals did much to arouse a transient zeal in
behalf of "the cause"; but that quickly vanished. The Irish, you know,
are a mercurial race. We must only hope that as information
spreads, hearts will be gained - and hearts - can never desert you
it, until its triumph shall be complete. Kind remembrance to
P. S. Remond - Could he not sometimes afford an hour to his
Irish friends? A parcel of Liberators arrived a few days past, &
we have, since their arrival, been living in your midst - hanging
on your words. But I must "cease", as my half sheet is filled.

With much regard - I remain yours, very truly,

Sarah Poole.

Dear Friend - The first piece of information I must give you is that
we are not "Elizabeth and Sarah Poole" but "Sarah & Elizabeth, or Eliza,
or Lizzy, Poole" - Sarah is four years older, & four years wiser, and
ten years better than Lizzy - Your presents are very beautiful, &
doubtless valuable to us because of the well known handwriting within
them - We are grateful for your kind feelings towards us, & puzzle
our heads in vain to know upon what foundation they are built
for although we fancy we are intimately acquainted with Mrs. Chapman
it seems strange that she should think she has any knowledge of us -
I fancy your imagination is active, as I am sure it is flattering -
"Socrates in Boston" is exceedingly searching and well written - Will not
Lord Morpeth & R. D. Webb be astonished at finding their disclaimers swelling
the peal? My friend Robert H. Moore sent me some lines ~~written~~
written by him on receipt of the Liberty Bell for 1842 - I think it

the Liberty Bell - a pity they should not appear. If you are of the same opinion you have one article at least for next year's volume as I shall venture to copy them here -

On the Liberty Bell.

Ring loud that hallowed Bell

Ring it long, ring it long.

Through the wide world let it tell
That Freedom's strong. ~~Freedom's strong.~~

That the whole world shall be free
The mighty crowd, the mighty crowd,
That the proud shall bend the knee,
The haughty proud, ~~the haughty proud~~

Ring, ring the mighty Bell
In the storm, in the storm.
Brothers! it shall herald well
Fair Freedom's form, fair ~~Freedom's form~~.

Ring it in the Tyrants' ear
Ring it long, ring it long,
Ring it till he crouch and fear
Freedom's strong. ~~Freedom's strong~~

Ring it Southward till its voice
~~I that~~ Slaves toll, ~~that~~ Slavery toll,
And Freedom's ~~waking~~ bones rejoice
Both limb and soul ~~both limb and soul~~.

Ring it o'er ~~the~~ Negro's grave
Ring it deep, ring it deep;
Its tones are sacred to the Slave
In Freedom's sleep, ~~in Freedom's sleep~~.

Ring it till its startling tones
Shall young & old, young and old,
Till despots tremble on their thrones
And their blood run cold, ~~their blood run cold~~

Ring it till the Slave be free
Wherever chained, wherever chained
Till universal Liberty
For all be gained, ~~for all be gained~~

Ring it till the young arise
To Freedom's fight, to Freedom's fight
Spring gladly toward the kindling skies
All clothed in light, ~~all clothed in light~~

Ring it till the bond of ¹⁰ ~~sest~~
Be torn away, be torn away
Till every man as God's elect
Kneel down to pray, ~~Kneel down~~

Ring it till the world have heard
And felt at length ~~felt~~ ¹¹ ~~all~~ ~~length~~
Till every living soul be stirred,
And clothed with strength, ~~strength~~

W.H. Moore

I hope you'll like this. I am
sure there is no objection to
publishing it. I shall write to
P.M. & confes that I have
sent it to you, so that if his
bashfulness ~~takes~~ alarm on the occa-
sion, (which, considering that he
appears before the public every
day of his life is not likely) he
can recal the lines --
And now I ought to apologise
for untidy writing & coarse
paper. we are hastening
with the letter in the hope
of despatching it by next
packet, & had to get this
copy paper at the next village
to expedite our thanks to you
then. I have had to spend my
evening tinkering up Moore's
verse, which came home
with all its imperfections
on its head - and so I've had
no time to write any thing
fine for myself - which excuse
you will oblige leaves my
ability quite untouched! —

~~right~~
I wish I had finished this before tea - I seemed then to have much to say
now feel wordless and hopeless after five minutes' self-contemplation -
Sarah wishes me to say that of course Moore's verse may undergo any
polishing you think fit to apply - Henry C. Wright has won his way
to all our hearts - he wrote several letters to us from Manchester
and of them gives a most vivid description of the anti Corn Law meetings.
of O'Connell, Moore, Buckingham &c. &c. I ought not to forget Colonel J. T.
Thompson, whom H.W. greatly liked - England and Scotland are
boldly struggling for the nation's life - Ireland is indifferent to the
free-trade movement - the landowners are almost universally opposed
to any alteration - and the farmers fear that they should be dreadfully
rack-rented if "protection" were removed; that rents would not be lowered
to suit altered circumstances - To those who fully understand the
subject the Corn Laws must appear suicidal -

Please excuse this hasty production, and believe me your grateful friend
Lizzy Poole

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